

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 79  
By Miller J

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Bowater, Inc. on receiving  
Sustainable Forestry Initiative Certification.

WHEREAS, Bowater Incorporated, a global leader in paper and lumber production, has recently demonstrated its adherence to environmentally sound forestry practices and has been duly recognized for its worthy accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, the American Forest and Paper Association, through its Sustainable Forestry Board, administers an internationally recognized process for officially recognizing and certifying management programs that incorporate policies and practices for achieving long-term forest resource on private and public forest lands; this program is known as the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI); and

WHEREAS, the SFI certification and verification procedure utilizes highly credentialed, independent audit teams that comprehensively evaluate every aspect of a forest resource management program; and

WHEREAS, since 2000, Bowater, Inc. has carefully documented its forestry practices, undergoing an audit by KPMG Performance Registrar, Inc., to ensure that the company meets the SFI requirements; and

WHEREAS, the audit teams evaluated resource management activities such as water quality protection; fire, insect, and disease protection; environmental conditions; timber management, including clearcutting practices and sustained yield; reforestation; road building and maintenance; local community relationships; aesthetics; recreation; management staff skills and competency; public participation; wildlife management, threatened and endangered species; historic and archaeological sites; and demonstration and outreach programs; and

WHEREAS, upon completion of the evaluation process, the audit teams concluded that the manner in which Bowater manages its 471,000 acres of timberlands in the Southeast United States (including substantial acreage in Tennessee) adheres to sustainable forestry practices under the criteria established by the SFI; and

WHEREAS, indicative of its commitment to maintaining environmentally sound business practices, Bowater has voluntarily opted for annual surveillance audits by an independent third party auditor to verify continuous improvement; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That this General Assembly commends Bowater, Inc. for having achieved for certification under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the General Assembly recognizes the accomplishments and continued commitment of Bowater, Inc. to SFI's standards for forest sustainability, and that such efforts serve as a model for all Tennessee's private forest landowners in promoting the highest standards of forest resource management.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.